PUBLIC HISTORY NEWS

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REFLECTING ON REPAIR: THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING THEME



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Ideally, a conference theme is broad enough to encompass the breadth of a field yet specific enough to create cohesion and perhaps spark new synergies and

connections within that field. Seth Bruggeman (SB) and Cathy Stanton (CS), Program Committee Co-Chairs for the 2019 NCPH Annual Meeting in Hartford, Connecticut, reflect on how this year's theme of "Repair Work" was developed and how it has shaped the program.

CS: Seth, what did you initially find interesting about the idea of repair as a conference theme?

SB: I think in things. It's just how my brain works. I won't remember the title of a book I read last week, but I can tell you the sizes of all the various bolts that held my first car together. This way of thinking doesn't fit very neatly into the academic world, and so to get by I've had to spend a lot of time translating between words and things. "Repair" interested me immediately because, as an organizational concept, it's a great tool for describing these acts of translation: tweaks, alterations, and adaptations that make words and things co-operable. And, in this sense too, "repair" helps me understand my commitments to public history. We are all translators, each of us tasked with designing the processes by which history gets made legible to no end of dissimilar people. Getting these processes working, patching them up, trying out new parts all of this is what I enjoy about doing public history, and all of it inheres in repair work.

What about you, Cathy, how do you relate to repair work? What is it about repair that resonates so powerfully with public history?

CS: I've been thinking about repair in relation to public history ever since I read James Abrams' essay "Lost Frames of Reference" as a grad student. He talks about "cultural repair workers" in projects throughout deindustrialized Pennsylvania, and it just made so much sense to me as a characterization of so much of what public historians get called on to do—to help reframe or reinvent or reinvigorate something (often something economic) that has lost momentum.

I think that's different from your sense of repair as a kind of translation. This is more about attempts at transformation, which don't always work and don't always align with the specific values that historians bring to them. Lately, as I've watched public historians struggling with what role they should or can play within deeply fraught public and political



The Church of the Good Shepherd on the grounds of the recentlycreated Coltsville National Historical Park. Attendees will have multiple opportunities to talk about and visit Coltsville at the conference.

processes, I've been thinking more about the notion of "repairing a broken world." That's a phrase that gets used in somewhat over-simple ways in the tech and innovation economy. But it also has deep civic and even spiritual resonances that seem very compatible with a careful contemplation of history.

CS: What's your sense of how these ideas (and maybe others) are reflected in the final conference program for Hartford?

SB: I suspect that attendees will immediately perceive a deep concern in the Hartford program to, as you put it, repair a broken world. Words like "resistance," "justice," "ethics," and "owning up" run through our sessions. That they do, in my view,

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PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS - IT'S A LONG GAME



MARLA MILLER / MMILLER@HISTORY.UMASS.EDU

Not long ago, I received a wonderful email from a woman who had participated in a museum program I helped direct some fifteen years ago. Called "Voices from Three

Centuries," the National Endowment for the Humanities-funded program at the Porter-Phelps-Huntington House in Hadley, Massachusetts brought elementary and secondary education (K-12) teachers to the museum, but more importantly, into the associated archival collections to learn about recent trends in historiography. They also gained experience with primary source research as they each created lesson plans that tapped these rich manuscript collections in ways that strengthened their respective curricula.

I was delighted, these many years later, to receive an email this summer from one of our participants. She wrote that, for the project's organizers



The Porter-Phelps-Huntington House in Hadley, Massachestts (photo by author).

"... the seminar probably vanished into the background of academic life pretty quickly. But for me, it was life-altering. After the summer ended, I decided to pursue my PhD in history my experiences in the archives at Amherst and Smith reminded me how much I missed "doing" history, and my interactions with other scholars taught me that I just might be able to do it. I graduated [with my PhD and now have a faculty position] where I also coordinate the secondary social studies education program."

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AMPLIFYING PUBLIC HISTORY: TAKING OAH BEYOND THEIR ANNUAL MEETING

JACKIE SWIHART / JESWIHAR@IU.EDU GARRETT RECEVEUR / GWRECE01@GMAIL.COM SAM OPSAHL / SAMOPSA@IU.EDU STASIA TANZER / ATANZER@IU.EDU



Pictured from left to right: Sam Opsahl, Stasia Tanzer, Jackie Swihart, and Garrett Receveur.

When we were approached by NCPH to work with the Mellon-funded "OAH Amplified Initiative" (more information at: http://www. oah.org/programs/news/amplified-initiative/),

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Gerald Zahavi

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NCPH inspires public engagement with the past and serves the needs of practitioners in putting history to work in the world by building community among historians, expanding professional skills and tools, fostering critical reflection on historical practice, and publicly advocating for history and historians. *Public History News* is published in March, June, September, and December. NCPH reserves the right to reject material that is not consistent with the goals and purposes of the organization. Individual membership orders, changes of address, and business and editorial correspondence should be addressed to NCPH, 127 Cavanaugh Hall – IUPUI, 425 University Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46202-5140. E-mail: ncph@iupui.edu. Tel: 317-274-2716. Join online or renew at www.ncph.org. Headquartered on the campus of IUPUI, NCPH is grateful for the generous support of the IU School of Liberal Arts and the Department of History.

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CANDIDATES FOR THE 2019 NCPH ELECTION

Full candidate info at http://bit.ly/NCPH2019Slate

Current board and committee members are listed at https://ncph.org/about/governancecommittees/board-of-directors-and-committees/

Board of Directors (six candidates for three positions)

George W. Boudreau, McNeil Center for Early American Studies

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Cherstin M. Lyon, California State University, San Bernardino

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Toronto, ON, Canada

Cold Spring Harbor, NY

Joshua Jenkins

Fuquay Varina, NC

Brandy Hinesley-Chambers

Soddy Daisy, TN

Galloway, NJ

Like President Coolidge, you too can vote from the comforts of your own home in the 2019 NCPH Election! Pres. Coolidge votes by mail, [10/30/24]. Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, [LC-DIG-npcc-12492].

> Aimee Loiselle Springfield, MA John Lucier Pittsburgh, PA

Mirelle Luecke Pittsburah. PA

Beth Luey Fairhaven, MA

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Christopher Rose

Christophe Austin, TX



The polls are open. Photo by Flickr user Mark Gunn.

Nominating Committee (four candidates for two positions)

Logan Camporeale, Spokane City & County Historic Preservation Office

Evan Faulkenbury, State University of New York at Cortland

Tracy Neumann, Wayne State University

John Sherrer, Historic Columbia

Ballots and candidate biographical information were distributed by email to members in late November. Please contact ncph@iupui.edu if you are a member and did not receive an electronic ballot. **The election closes January 15, 2019.** Your vote counts!

Marc Vance

Tempe, AE

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Washington, DC

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ACTIONS OF THE NCPH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

After the April 19 meeting of the NCPH Board of Directors in Las Vegas, Nevada, and prior to the fall meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, the board convened electronically and by telephone in the intervening months and took the following actions:

- Approved the Minutes of the Spring 2018 Board Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada and the May 2018 Virtual Meeting.
- Voted to provisionally endorse the draft US250 goal statement from the American Association for State and Local History.
- Recognized the unexpected passing of Aidan J. Smith, who worked for the Organization of American Historians, and discussed writing a reflection piece for *History@Work* on Aidan's work with the National Park Service and many NCPH members.
- Discussed and approved NCPH's response to the National Park Service Notice of Funding Opportunity P18AS00217.
- Voted to adopt an updated organizational Privacy Policy.
- Voted to create an Ad Hoc NCPH 40th Anniversary Committee charged with coordinating commemorative efforts related to the upcoming 40th anniversaries of NCPH (2020) and the first national public history conference (2019).
- Endorsed (with one abstention) a "Dear Colleague" letter from Representatives David Price (D-NC), Chellie Pingree (D-ME), and Leonard Lance's (R-NJ) opposing Amendment #39 to HR 6147, Interior-Environment Division A Appropriations, offered by Rep. Glenn Grothman, which would have cut fifteenpercent—\$23 million each—from the budgets of the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.
- Appointed Andrea Blackman (Nashville Public Library) to fill a vacant seat on the Nominating Committee.
- Welcomed Nicole Belolan as NCPH's new Digital Media Editor and *The Public Historian* Co-Editor based at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities at Rutgers-Camden.
- Approved the Minutes of the June 2018 Virtual Meeting.
- Discussed the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force's report and recommendations coming out of their April 2018 "On the Fly" session on sexual harassment and gender discrimination in the field during the Las Vegas conference and heard



In August, the Board welcomed NCPH's new Digital Media Editor and *The Public Historian* Co-Editor, Dr. Nicole Belolan. Here's Nicole rehousing a World War II-era pack at the Milton Historical Society in Milton, Delaware. Nicole is based at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities at Rutgers-Camden and can be reached at Nicole.belolan@rutgers.edu.

updates from the office on initial work to implement several of the report's short term recommendations.

- Voted to create a subcommittee of the board (with input from former board members) to research, discuss, and create a conference code of conduct in time for the Hartford annual meeting.
- Discussed potential changes to the NCPH jobs page and formed a subcommittee of the New Professional and Graduate Student and Professional Development Committees to craft a Best Practices document for employers in crafting and posting job listings.
- Approved the Minutes of the August 2018 Virtual Meeting.
- Approved the Minutes of the September 2018 Virtual Meeting.
- Discussed annual review processes for the Executive Director, *The Public Historian Editor*, and the NCPH Digital Media Editor/*The Public Historian* Co-Editor.

On Friday and Saturday, October 26 and 27, the board met in Atlanta, Georgia and took the following actions:

- Heard a report from the 2020 Atlanta Annual Meeting Local Arrangements Co-Chairs regarding venues, tours, and special events being planned.
- Heard a report from the NCPH 40th Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee regarding their plans to commemorate the 40th anniversaries of the first national public history meeting in Montecito, California in 1979 and the Incorporation of NCPH in 2020.

- Reviewed the 2019 Board and Nominating Committee Election slates submitted by the Nominating Committee.
- Approved the Minutes of the October 2018 Virtual Meeting.
- Heard reports from the President, Executive Director, Digital Media Editor, and *The Public Historian* Editor.
- Voted to accept a page budget increase for *The Public Historian* to 640 pages per volume year as offered by the University of California Press.
- Voted to request a contract extension of two years with the University of California Press for publication of *The Public Historian* when the current contract is up for renewal at the end of 2019.
- Voted to adopt the 2019 Operating Budget.
- Voted to allocate \$32,000 of the 2017 surplus to a new cash reserve fund with the remaining amount (\$16,191) to be transferred into the Endowment, and to charge the Finance Committee with providing recommendations for how to structure the new cash reserve fund.
- Heard reports on current fundraising efforts.
- Reviewed written and oral reports from NCPH committees, subcommittees, and task forces.
- Discussed an exploratory report on governance best practices, accepted recommendations from the Governance Sub-Committee, and voted to charge the sub-committee with drafting the language to amend the NCPH bylaws to establish a new Governance Committee.
- Voted to move the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force to a standing committee pending required language for the bylaws amendment.
- Formed an ad-hoc committee to use the Long Range Plan to prioritize partnership plans with other allied organizations in 2019.



NCPH Board Members and Atlanta Local Arrangements Committee members gather informally ahead of the Fall NCPH Board Meeting.

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NCPH COMMITTEE UPDATES

These updates give a sampling of what NCPH volunteers are doing for the organization and the field of public history. The committees encourage your input throughout the year; committee chairs and members can be found at:

https://ncph.org/about/governance-committees/ board-of-directors-and-committees/.

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD

Due to the increasing volume of calls for NCPH to take stands on public history issues in contemporary culture, the Advocacy Committee (a committee of the Board) has been expanded with committee members from the general membership. The committee is charged with both responding to these calls for advocacy and also with recommending proactive positions and actions to advance NCPH's goals of advocating for public history and its practitioners. The Long Range Plan provides helpful direction for developing a less-reactive Advocacy Committee strategy. To that end, the committee will be holding an open meeting at the annual meeting to discuss important issues NCPH should be advocating for. For those who cannot attend, and to start the conversation, we will post on History@Work both before and after the meeting, soliciting what advocacy directions NCPH should be taking. The submitted pressing issues to be discussed should be of national significance and of importance to the NCPH membership. As part of developing partnerships and models of consultation as directed in the Long Range Plan, we will be reaching out to potential partners and other stakeholders in public history advocacy. One challenge we face is understanding what issues are of importance to the membership, as opposed to individual members or nonmembers (who often ask for an NCPH response on social media.) -Submitted by chair Suzanne Fischer

CURRICULUM AND TRAINING COMMITTEE

The Curriculum and Training Committee is currently working with the Professional Development Committee and the NCPH office to begin offering NCPH webinars, with the first one to hopefully be offered in early 2019. In addition, the NCPH Public History Educator's Forum has been at capacity (fifty people) for the past several years and had a waiting list in Las Vegas. In 2019, the Forum capacity will be increased to seventy people to test out the potential of turning this into a larger gathering. *-Submitted by co-chairs Michelle Delaney and Rebecca Shrum*

CONSULTANTS COMMITTEE

The Consultants Committee has made progress on several fronts. Most importantly, we set three primary goals for the upcoming conference in Hartford:

- 1. Put on a useful, well-attended workshop;
- 2. Host a well-attended Speakeasy event that encourages dialogue and networking;
- 3. Host live Tweets during conference, including "Twitter takeovers" by predetermined committee members each day of the conference.



A full house for the 2018 Consultants Committee workshop. The committee is planning to build on their success in Las Vegas with another workshop in 2019 in Hartford.

The conference workshop was the subject of our July call, and co-chair Ryan Shackleton put a proposal together that was accepted by the Program Committee. The workshop is geared towards new consultants and small firms and will focus on branding and building a business. Building off previous years' successes, the workshop will provide practical advice on how to market a business and attract new clients as well as techniques for writing a successful proposal.

The Speakeasy will be held at a slightly different time this year. We have pushed the start time back to 5:30 pm in the hopes of avoiding conflict with the poster session that is held simultaneously. We intend to better acknowledge our sponsors this year as part of a wider effort to attract sponsors through a targeted outreach campaign and improved recognition to donors. Fundraising began in early October.

We are grappling with whether social media is the most effective form of communication to the wider membership and the best use of our committee's human resources. The goals of the Twitter account were to promote the consulting community, promote projects which the committee is involved in, demonstrate the diverse nature of consulting work, and promote discussion surrounding these topics. The account's success, however, depends on content, and we are contemplating whether there are better ways to achieve these goals that are more familiar to our committee members.

We hope to convene a committee meeting in November to discuss these issues as well as the establishment of a committee mission statement. *-Submitted by co-chairs Ryan Shackleton and Jennifer Stevens*



DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

With the help of generous donors, the Development Committee successfully launched 2020 Vision: Endowment Campaign for a Brighter Future at the 2018 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. This effort

seeks to secure sufficient donations and pledges to raise our endowment to \$1 million by the time of NCPH's 40th anniversary at the 2020 Annual Meeting.

While off to an excellent start, the campaign needs to be sustained in between the annual meetings, and the Development Committee is hard at work on that as well. For instance, the NCPH committees (with the exceptions of the awards committees and the Development and Finance Committees) have been challenged to be the first to have all members donate or pledge. Committee member Priya Chhaya recently organized a membership gathering in Washington, DC. Past-president Jim Gardner also graciously hosted a cocktail party for potential donors at his home in DC. Other initiatives will be underway soon.

To assure this campaign succeeds, we have to maintain momentum in between the annual meetings. Now is an excellent time to be a part of ensuring a brighter future for NCPH. Remember, this is a multi-year campaign, and your contribution can be made incrementally all the way up to the 2020 Annual Meeting. Whether you pledge to give over a period of time or make a one-time donation, take a moment before completing it to think about how NCPH has served and enriched the field of public history, and with it all our professional lives. Then make that pledge or donation in a meaningful amount that reflects what NCPH means to you.

More details on 2020 Vision: Endowment Campaign for a Brighter Future and how to donate can be found at the NCPH web page at https://ncph.org/giving/endowment/. -Submitted by co-chairs Bill Bryans and Dee Harris

DIGITAL MEDIA GROUP

The Digital Media Group (DMG) has been focused on Long Range Plan (LRP) tasks over the past several months, with subcommittees working on the different LRP activities:

• The *History@Work* editorial team has revised and updated the editorial guidelines with an eye toward improving author and content recruitment practices.

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- The *History*@*Work* team has also done some data analysis to track how the blog is covering important topics in the field and to provide some insight into what we are covering well, as well as where we can improve.
- A DMG subcommittee has undertaken a review of digital public history topics at past NCPH annual meetings. They are now working with NCPH Program Manager Meghan Hillman to analyze the accumulated data to see how it might inform future meeting activities.
- The DMG is working with NCPH Membership Manager Christine Crosby to finalize a digital communications and social media plan that encourages conversation and sharing across digital platforms.

In addition to our Long Range Plan work, the DMG has a new charge this year—to explore the creation of a Digital Public History Projects Directory. A DMG subcommittee will be working with NCPH staff to explore this idea and make a recommendation to the NCPH executive office.

History@Work is humming along, and is currently getting ready for some posts in collaboration with *The Public Historian*, as well as the inclusion of posts from board members and author affiliates. We are excited to have Nicole Belolan on board as Digital Media Editor and *The Public Historian* Co-Editor. -Submitted by chair Laura Miller



The August issue of *The Public Historian* is an impressive collection in honor of the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the Association of African American Museums.

THE PUBLIC HISTORIAN EDITORIAL BOARD

The Editorial Board of *The Public Historian* held its fall meeting in Washington, DC on October 5. Through the generosity of board member Kate Scott of the Senate Historical Office, it met in the Capitol building itself on what turned out to be an historic day, the eve of the final vote on Supreme Court nominee

Brett Kavanaugh. Board members brainstormed ideas for special, themed issues of *TPH* and about future collaborations with *History@Work*. One particularly timely topic in the era of calls for "open access" for academic journals was a proposed set of posts that will help readers understand the finances of publishing the journal and the process of peer review in *TPH*. The next meeting of the Editorial Board will be in Hartford at the NCPH conference in March. *-Submitted by chair Bob Weyeneth*

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

The Committee on Environmental Sustainability (CES) is now in the last stages of its main multi-year project. That has been creating an extensive white paper on public history education and environmental sustainability. This work has entailed two insightful and productive years of dialogue in working groups and structured discussions at the Indianapolis and Las Vegas meetings. This document will serve as a "tool kit" providing guidance and a bibliography of published resources for educators and other public history professionals seeking to promote environmentally sustainable practices and perspectives, not by adding to the curriculum, but with the goal of integrating them into the values and skills we already teach, such as shared authority. The CES is quite proud of this effort. But its conclusion is also a bittersweet moment as it coincides with the departure of a few long-standing key committee members-people central to the creation of what we hope will be a very useful document. The conclusion of this project leaves something of a hole in our agenda and so the committee will use the time between now and our Hartford meeting to define what will be the next grand project. Ideas thus far have included creating a resource handbook for green conferences (this project has emerged in a few academic societies and pursuing this idea opens fruitful dialogues with allies in other subfields), creating a crowd sourced database of "at risk" public history sites and projects, and creating a second resource "tool kit" targeted at small museums looking to introduce climate issues to their current interpretive programming.

The committee is also sponsoring two sessions at the 2019 Annual Meeting in Hartford: "Investigating the Truth in Truth & Reconciliation: Public Historians Working with Environmental Justice Organizers," and "Trees, Preservations, and Public Historians: Challenges and Opportunities." The latter is a follow-up to a previous session at NCPH 2016 entitled "The Secret Lives of Trees: How Historic Landscapes Adapt and Change Over Time." The goal of this panel is to assemble essays for a published volume on the public history of trees.

Members of the committee have formed a digital and print subcommittee whose mission will be to locate content for *History@Work* and other similar media. Several CES members are also acting as liaisons between our committee and similar committees in other academic societies and other committees within the NCPH.

-Submitted by co-chairs William Ippen and Philip Levy

FINANCE COMMITTEE

At its October 2nd meeting, the Finance Committee discussed establishing an operational reserve fund, but did not recommend establishment of such a fund at this time. Instead, the committee believes it is most prudent to place any surplus monies into the endowment fund, allowing the surplus to earn a higher rate of return. In lieu of an operational reserve, the Finance Committee recommended that the board establish specific guidelines for use of the endowment fund in the case of emergencies.

The Finance Committee also discussed the need to create a Financial Policies and Procedures Manual that would govern how money is handled within the organization, formalizing separation of duties, purchase authority, how auditing firms are chosen, etc. so that NCPH can model best practices to our membership. The committee and NCPH staff will work on a proposal for the board in the coming months. *-Submitted by chair Amy Wilson*



Hartford's Ancient Burying Ground, the oldest historic site in the city and the site of attempts to locate and restore African American and Native American burials. The Burying Ground is the site of an NCPH 2019 tour and the church next door is the site of the public plenary. Photo courtesy of Christine Crosby.

2019 LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

The Local Arrangements Committee is winding up the bulk of our work after a busy summer of planning. We have planned several tours in and around Hartford, but by far, the majority of dining and activities will be walkable from the Convention Center. One member has negotiated special admissions deals with multiple local historic sites. We have submitted text describing Hartford and how the city is an ideal laboratory for exploring the conference theme of "Repair Work," whether physically, socially, politically, and economically. We have compiled and submitted information for the *Program* about getting to, from, and around Hartford.

We are still working with the local community and the Program Committee on an engaging public plenary that asks public historians and community members to consult one another on the role of historic sites in cities, in particular the role that the impending Coltsville National Historic Park can play in Hartford around the issues of economic development, community

NCPH COMMITTEE UPDATES // CONT'D. FROM PAGE 6

outreach, and particularly gun violence. LAC members are currently working on raising money for sponsorships and recruiting local exhibitors and advertisers. -Submitted by co-chairs Leah Glaser and Elizabeth Shapiro

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Long Range Planning (LRP) Committee is in a period of transition. The committee's long-term chair, Jean-Pierre Morin, who led the development and initial implementation of the Long Range Plan, has stepped back temporarily from the committee and new co-chair Denise Meringolo recently had to resign. Will Stoutamire, who has been on the committee since the drafting of the LRP, has agreed to step up as co-chair for the coming year. The committee is primarily working to ensure that the LRP's goals and activities continue to shape the work of NCPH. Committee members are working to implement a plan put in place during the spring 2018 meeting. Namely, each person on the committee identified individual LRP goals and activities about which they were most familiar or in which they were most interested. They took on responsibility for contacting relevant staff, board members, or committee chairs to open up conversations about progress on those specific goals and activities. We are not quite sure this is the best or most efficient method, but we are testing it out as a way to ensure that the LRP remains at the center of NCPH's work and our conversations.

-Submitted by co-chairs Jean-Pierre Morin and Will Stoutamire



In October, the Membership Committee worked with NCPH staff to host our first-ever Twitter Mini-Con.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee is continuing to implement and evaluate programming to expand member benefits and better serve the diverse needs of NCPH constituents. Current committee projects include piloting new "NCPH After Work" social events and working with the New Professional and Graduate Student Committee to evaluate the recently-launched onboarding program.

On October 18 and 19, NCPH hosted its first completely virtual mini-con, "(Re)Active Public History." The event was a huge success, with presenters and participants from across the United States and abroad taking part. The keynotes by LaTanya Autry, "Beyond Conversations: Transforming Museums through Social Justice Action," and Allison Tucker, "Memory to Action," were particularly well-received and pertinent to the ongoing challenges facing public historians. Work with the mini-con program is part of the committee's response to the current Long Range Plan, which prioritizes developing partnerships and programming that extend beyond one-off events.

The committee also has a new outreach event planned for the 2019 Annual Meeting: "Shared Wisdom: NCPH From the Pros." This session will provide conference attendees with opportunities to speak with experienced NCPHers about networking and ways to become more involved in the organization. -Submitted by co-chairs Andy Mach and Krista McCracken

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HISTORY		9 f E JOINIMEMBERSHIP JOBS DONATE CONTACT	
WHAT IS PUBLIC HISTORY?	HISTORYOWORK	PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES CONFERENCES ABOUT NCPH	
JOB LISTINGS		The NCPH Jobs listing is a free service our organization provides to the public history profession. NCPH evalues may parentee advant the accuracy of information contained in the listings or the basieness practices of enrelyinges leading openings here. We do, however, and employees using this service to adverse to reasonable isonables of professional effects. In particular, we expect that:	
Search Jobs		1. All jobs should be offered on an equal-opportunity basis.	
Enter Job Title	О,	 Compensation should be commensurable with the qualifications required for a position. We do not accept postings for uncompensated internships, and the NCPH Executive Office reserves the right to determine it an internship meets our standards of ethical compensation. 	
Job Field		3. Positions with a stated salary or wage should be compensated at or above the level advertised.	
Museums & Historical Societies an		 Advertised positions must be relevant to public history. Final determination of a posting's relevance will be determined by the NCPH Executive Office. 	
Archives & Libraries 45		5. Jobs submitted without a closing date will be posted for 8 weeks.	
Historic Preservation 39		a see access a second and a second and a period of a second	
Academia 30			
Historic Site Interpretation 👳		POSTED 10/29/18 CLOSES 10/19/18	
Non-profit #		Research Director	
Administration 10		E KNOW HISTORY INC 0 ONTARIO	
Conservation 9		VEW DITAL3 +	
Digital Humanities 4			
C offer control of		DASTED ASIA/18	
Position Type		Assistant Professor, Public History	
CLOCK Days Trees			

The New Professional and Graduate Student and Professional Development Committees are discussing changes to the NCPH Jobs Page, as well as drafting a best practices guide for posting jobs.

NEW PROFESSIONAL AND GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEE

The New Professional and Graduate Student Committee is working on multiple initiatives to empower and engage NCPH members throughout their academic careers and as they enter the professional field. Committee members contribute blog posts and solicit authors for the *History@Work* blog. The committee is also hard at work planning the New Professional and Graduate Student Social for the 2019 annual meeting in Hartford. The social is a great way to mix and mingle with peers, and share stories and advice. If you're a first time conference attendee, the social will be a great way to ease into the swing of things and make some new conference friends. Stay tuned for more information!

Our committee members have been working on a follow-up version of the *Public History Navigator* guide to selecting a graduate program. In its final stages of completion, this second edition of the *Navigator* is tailored to new professionals who are just entering the job market, offering advice on where to find public history jobs, how to maximize previous experience to land your first job, interview tips, and more. The committee is also collaborating with the Membership Committee and the NCPH staff on a pilot program for onboarding new NCPH members. This program is designed to make personalized connections between current and new members, encouraging membership retention and engagement.

Finally, are you following @NCPHnewgrad on Twitter? Follow us to keep up to date on these and any other committee happenings! This is also a great way to ask any questions you may have about the field or NCPH as a new professional or graduate student. We look forward to connecting with you online or in person in Hartford!

-Submitted by co-chairs Julie Peterson and Harvee White

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

In early October, the Nominating Committee recommended a slate of six candidates for three open seats on the NCPH Board of Directors and four candidates for two open seats on the Nominating Committee (see the listing of candidates on page 3). In selecting candidates, the committee considered several nominations received through an online form on the NCPH website and others suggested by interested members. The committee believes the candidates represent a broad cross-section of NCPH's membership and are sound choices for the upcoming election.

-Submitted by chair Daniel Vivian



Professional Development Committee members Lisa Withers and Claire Jerry (seated L-R) help check in Speed Networking participants in Las Vegas. Photo by Andy Townsend.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

NCPH staff have been working with the Long Range Planning (LRP) Committee to implement its current Plan, originally created in 2017 and intended to establish a framework for the organization into the 2020s. The Professional Development Committee has been given many important responsibilities within the LRP and is working diligently to help advance the organization's goals.

NCPH COMMITTEE UPDATES // CONT'D. FROM PAGE 7

Perhaps the most important development for the committee was the decision to better utilize the talents of all members by establishing five subcommittees dedicated to specific tasks. These subcommittees consist of three to four committee members and will help the co-chairs implement the committee's goals. These subcommittees are dedicated to improving the NCPH Jobs Page; promoting webinars for public history practitioners; revising the guidelines for workshop proposals; promoting and implementing the Speed Networking session at the annual meeting; and establishing external partnerships with outside organizations such as HBCUs, HSIs, Tribal colleges, and community colleges.

In August, the committee worked with NCPH staff to evaluate and select workshops for the 2019 Annual Meeting in Hartford. The committee also established connections with various members of the Long Range Planning Committee to discuss strategies for implementing the LRP, which led to the creation of the five aforementioned subcommittees.

Co-chair Jessica Knapp participated in two conference calls in September. The first was held among all committee chairs and aimed to promote more collaboration among committees. Jessica expressed the committee's support during the call for the organization's ongoing work towards establishing policies to combat sexual harassment, support for gender neutral washrooms, pronoun usage, and creating a code of conduct for the annual meeting. The second call was held with the Curriculum and Training Committee and focused on how to organize and promote webinars. The committee agreed to assist with brainstorming topics and finding presenters for webinars.

The Professional Development Committee is fully invested in its work and is excited to help the organization reach its goals for the Long Range Plan.

-Submitted by co-chairs Jessica Knapp and Nicholas Sacco

AASLH-AHA-NCPH-OAH TASK FORCE ON PUBLIC HISTORY EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

The Joint Task Force on Public History Employment and Education is finalizing the report on the survey of alumni of graduate programs in public history and preparing to share it with the four sponsoring organizations. The task force has organized a panel



The Joint Task Force on Public History Education and Employment is co-sponsored by the American Association for State and Local History, American Historical Association, National Council on Public History, and Organization of American Historians.

discussion on the survey of public history alumni that will be held on Friday, January 4, 2019, at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association in Chicago, Illinois. Task force co-chair Daniel Vivian will chair the session. and Theodore Karamanski of Loyola University-Chicago, Debra Reid of The Henry Ford, and NCPH Executive Director Stephanie Rowe will serve as panelists. Stephanie Rowe and task force co-chair Philip Scarpino also held a roundtable discussion on the findings of the alumni survey at the annual meeting of the American Association for State and Local History in Kansas City, Missouri, September 26-29, 2018. -Submitted by co-chairs Philip Scarpino and Daniel Vivian

UPUI IUPUI Graduate Program in Public History

Established in 1984, the Graduate Program in Public History at Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) trains historians in the research, analytical, and communications skills needed to apply their work in the public arena. Students benefit from a combination of classroom instruction and practical experiences that prepare them for a wide range of public history occupations. Campus adjacent to downtown Indianapolis, which serves as a learning laboratory for public history students.

Program highlights include:

- A nationally-recognized public history degree program, with opportunities for students to pursue additional qualifications and certifications in Library Science, Museum Studies, and Documentary Editing
- Two academic years of half-time paid internships in local institutions provide significant practical training (interns also receive a substantial tuition remission and health insurance)
- Situated near several long-time partner institutions and research repositories (including the Indiana Historical Society, Indiana State Library and Historical Bureau, and Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art)

Graduate public history courses include: Digital Humanities, Historical Administration, Historic Preservation, Historic Site Interpretation, Introduction to Archival Practices, and Local and Community History





AMPLIFYING PUBLIC HISTORY: TAKING OAH BEYOND THE

ANNUAL MEETING // CONT'D. FROM PAGE 1



we were excited to put skills learned from our graduate classes into practice and further NCPH's mission to build a community and expand historians' professional toolkit. The project was designed to make the Organization of American Historians' (OAH's) annual meeting more accessible to members and to a larger public NCPH saw the

Screenshot from one of the IUPUI student-created modules for NCPH's participation in the OAH Amplified Initiative. Each of these modules analyzes a different facet of public history in an effort to introduce new audiences to the field. The modules make use of sessions from the 2018 history community. NCPUL user the

partnership as a way to engage the IU School of Liberal Arts' History Department at IUPUI (where NCPH is headquartered) and its flagship Public History MA Program. As the graduate students involved in the project, we hope to explain the process by which we created the modules to serve as an example for future Amplified Initiative projects. We also aim to discuss the objectives of our work and its potential uses for public historians.

In April of this year, Jackie Swihart and Sam Opsahl attended the OAH 2018 Annual Meeting where they sat in on preselected sessions and conducted interviews with panelists. The sessions—selected by project advisors Jennifer Guiliano, Stephanie Rowe, and Rebecca Shrum—covered topics that were seen as most relevant and critical to the field of public history. Later, Stasia Tanzer and Garrett Receveur joined the group to help create the modules, and we began working as a full team in June 2018.

Our primary goal was to make the session audio and video recordings from the OAH conference more accessible to anyone who might utilize our modules. To do so, we divided and conquered: we identified three main themes and put each session into one of these categories. These categories became our modules. From there we created finding aids to make these resources more easily navigable and pulled together books and articles mentioned by the panelists, as well as our own supplemental sources that seemed relevant.

Once we had a solid repository of information, we developed loosely organized lesson plans for each session and module. Our idea was not to have a highly structured product, but a guide that could be modified by whoever wanted to use the material. For instance, the "Career Paths for Public Historians" module includes sources related to the various positions a student of history could apply for and helpful links to assist with writing resumes and cover letters. Each session is similarly equipped with sources related to particular career paths, such as exhibit development and documentary editing. The "Arming and Engaging Citizens" module highlights case studies that might be of use to practicing public historians interested in contemporary issues flanking our field. Sessions within this module include immigration, the status of Confederate Monuments, and how to best engage children in museums. Lastly, the "Training Public Historians" module is tailored to faculty in the field looking to prepare public history students to navigate issues related to gender and employment in the field, as well as the opportunities and challenges presented by the intersections of digital and public history.

We created these three distinct and navigable modules so that professors, students, and (public) historians alike may use them in whatever capacity

they deem fit. They serve as an outlined resource for people who are interested in immersing themselves within the field of public history. The digital platforms allow any public historian in practice or training to join a community and reflect on historical practices. It is meant to serve as a stepping stone introduction to our field for some and a professional tool for others. We invite everyone to explore this free resource. We hope it will be a launching point for those discovering the field of public history for the first time, as well as a resource for those looking for a new way to teach and connect with others in the field.

For more information on this project and to access these three modules, visit https://ncph.org/public-history-commons/oah-amplified-initiative/.

Jackie Swihart is a second-year graduate student in the Public History Program at IUPUI. She was the project leader for the Amplified Initiative and worked on the module "Training Public Historians." She currently interns at Indiana Humanities in Indianapolis.

Garrett Receveur is a second-year graduate student in the Public History Program at IUPUI. He worked on the module "Arming and Engaging Citizens" and currently interns at the James Whitcomb Riley Museum Home in Indianapolis.

Sam Opsahl is a second-year graduate student in the Public History Program at IUPUI. He worked on the module "Career Paths for Public Historians" with Stasia Tanzer and is currently interning at the National Council on Public History office in Indianapolis.

Stasia Tanzer is a second-year graduate student in the Public History Program at IUPUI. She worked on the module "Career Paths for Public Historians" with Sam Opsahl. She currently interns in the curatorial department at the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art in Indianapolis.



GIFT MEMBERSHIPS

Looking for ways to support a budding public historian? Want to reward a graduating or new student for his or her hard work? Consider giving the gift of an NCPH membership! Available in the Student, New Professional, Retired, and Individual categories, a gift membership in NCPH offers important professional benefits and connections for new and established practitioners.

http://bit.ly/joinNCPH

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS - IT'S A LONG GAME // CONT. FROM PAGE 1

She concluded that she "doubt[ed her] life would have taken such a turn" without the Voices program.

Of course I was thrilled that the program had such an impact. Our aim was to strengthen K-12 instruction by serving teachers, to extend the reach of these archival collections, and to help this historic house museum connect, albeit indirectly, with students who wouldn't otherwise cross its threshold. We weren't aiming to prompt career changes, but to learn that the program sparked this intellectual and professional journey was exciting and gratifying, to say the least.

Learning how that program had rippled out for one participant put me in mind of another museum program with a long-term impact on my own life. Many years ago, one of my students, Kate Navarra Thibodeau (I would be remiss not to mention that in 2006 she received an NCPH New Professional Award) in her role as curator of Wistariahurst Museum, mounted an exhibition of "trump indicators"-devices used in the game of Whist, and later in Bridge, that helped bidders remember the contract in play. As part of the programming around that event, the museum hosted a Bridge tournament. Knowing that my husband had been wanting to get back into a game that he remembered fondly from his youth, and eager to support the museum's work, I encouraged him to sign up.

The next thing you know, I was taking Bridge lessons, and—to make a long story short—we became active in the Northampton Bridge Club, he eventually finding a regular partner for the competitive tables of the weekly game, and me finding fun and camaraderie in the "beginner's" room. His partner became a dear family friend, one of many we have since met through the game, and my husband is now a member of the club's board. Over the years, our social circle has been enlarged and greatly enriched by the Bridge community.

These are all outcomes of that museum exhibition and associated programming, but they will never show up on any evaluation forms, which track immediate impacts, but not long-term, indirect effects.

It reminds me that public history is a long game.

The pressure to report immediate outcomes and impacts to donors, board members, and other stakeholders is considerable. Funders (rightly) want to know what payoff their investment yielded, and that is usually reported in numbers—participants served, objects conserved, collections processed, or some other relevant metric. But whatever the results of such evaluation and assessment, it is important to remember that our work is out in the world having lasting, subtle, and transformative effects that we will likely never know.

Public history touches lives in ways that continue to ripple out long after the manila folders and the reports they contain are filed away in drawers, as new ideas simmer, new relationships blossom, new interests take root and flourish. When we close the books on a project, exhibit, program, report, or some other initiative, its afterlife is only just beginning, as audiences continue to sit with the ideas and questions we've raised; encounter the objects, buildings, or records we've preserved or interpreted; nurture personal and professional connections made; and take those experiences with them—in ways that we anticipated and hoped for, and also in ways that would surprise us.

In October, Executive Director Stephanie Rowe and I had the opportunity to attend the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, and throughout the sessions, I heard so many panelists and audience members recount formative/transformative moments from childhood or youth, in which an encounter with a document, artifact, or other material from the Black past proved pivotal in their paths toward work as curators and archivists, National Park Service historians and interpreters, and other pastkeeping professionals. Behind many of those stories are public historians whose work made those moments possible—some who know the impact their work had on these young minds, and others who may not.

Those stories helped me to remember that, while evaluation and assessment tools are necessary and important, they will always miss part of the story and sometimes perhaps the most important parts. Sometimes we'll learn about these happy long-term outcomes, as I did when that most welcome email showed up in my inbox, but far and away more often we won't. In the absence of such affirmations, or in the meantime between them, we have to trust our instincts, trust our work, and believe in the long game.

Marla Miller is the President of NCPH and is Professor and Director of the Public History Program in the History department at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

REFLECTING ON REPAIR: THE 2019 ANNUAL MEETING THEME // CONT.D. FROM PAGE 1

signals an overwhelming commitment among participants to understanding public history's positionality in today's fraught cultural landscape.

The ongoing work of reframing public history's origin story, for instance, will be on display in Hartford. So will efforts to reimagine our field's potential beyond the deep veins of white heteronormative privilege that still lurk in so much of our practice. I am particularly excited by the variety of session formats attendees will encounter in Hartford. We intend to do repair work, and the work that we do at NCPH becomes less and less passive each year. Attendees should expect to be engaged, productive, and reinvigorated!

Cathy, you mentioned James Abrams' essay as a formative influence on your expectations of public history. Thinking about this year's program reminds me of another essay that had a profound impact on my own work. In 2009, Ken Yellis suggested in his "Fred Wilson, PTSD, and Me," that beyond just convening discussions, museums had to also become culture warriors. The culture wars of the 1990s had eased, Yellis argued, but they'd be back before we knew it. A decade out, it's hard not to see the wisdom in Yellis' warning. My sense from this year's program is that I am not alone in having taken it to heart. I wonder though if, amid the violence that seems everywhere these days, war metaphors are really what we need right now. From the standpoint of program chair, what have you inferred about how public historians are responding to violence? What prospects might we have in Hartford for finding a new way forward?

CS: I'm heartened by the way that our 2019 program reflects a growing willingness to acknowledge *structural* forms of violence. There's a track within the program that foregrounds histories of weapons and gun violence, linked with our conference location in the heart of the 18th and 19th century American gun-manufacturing industry. I'm excited about those sessions, which will include a public plenary session about the possibilities for interpretation at the new national park in the former Colt's Manufacturing Company complex.

But beyond that more literal connection with the complicated legacies of guns in American culture, presenters across the program are raising good questions about entrenched disparities and exclusions and how those have led to the more visible flashpoints of conflict and resistance that are so often the focus of public historical work.

As we head toward NCPH's 40th anniversary in 2020, I know that some public historians are questioning whether the field has become unmoored from its roots and fixated on the pressing issues of the moment. I prefer to think of it as public history truly starting to come of age. As a community of practice, I'd say that we're getting better at embracing the implications and responsibilities of speaking clearly and critically about our understandings of what happened in the past and how the past continues to live on in the present. It's never easy and it demands continual tinkering and translation with our methods and alliances. Our program for Hartford gives us an inspiring snapshot of that work in progress!

Seth Bruggeman and Cathy Stanton are co-chairs of the 2019 NCPH Annual Meeting Program Committee. Seth Bruggeman is an Associate Professor of History at Temple University where he also directs the Center for Public History; Cathy Stanton is a Senior Lecturer in the Anthropology Department at Tufts University and an active public historian.

MEMBER PROFILE: MEIJER HERITAGE CENTER

LISA VANARRAGON / LISA.VANARRAGON@MEIJER.COM KENNETH POTT / KENNETH.POTT@MEIJER.COM

The Meijer Heritage Center (MHC) is the museum and archives for the food and general merchandise retailer, Meijer, Inc. Meijer has been family-owned since 1934. The strong sense of values instilled by the founders infuses our company culture, making history and heritage central to business operations in more than 240 stores, distribution facilities, and offices across Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, and Wisconsin. Located in the corporate headquarters in Walker, Michigan, the MHC opened in 2016 with the mission to inform and inspire visitors with the story of Meijer's founding and its legacy, past, present, and future. Our primary audience is internal employees (called team members) and their families, but external visitors and research requests are welcome.



The Meijer Theater accommodates up to fifty people for screenings of short films highlighting company innovations, as well as other team member learning and social events. Photo credit: Albert Vecerka/Esto.

Our archival collections include thousands of photographs, corporate records, advertisements, internal communications, publications, and other artifacts dating from the Meijer family's immigration from the Netherlands at the turn of the 20th century to present. Prior to 2016, these valuable assets were managed by archivists working directly with the Meijer family. Departments and team members across the company also kept their own files of photographs, documents, and memorabilia. A strong sense of company history is reflected in several books, including *Thrifty Years: The Life of Hendrik Meijer*, written by Board Chairman Hank Meijer.

The idea of a central archive and museum emerged in 2012 during a major renovation of the corporate campus. Following the passing in 2011 of second generation patriarch Fred, who for Meijer team members and customers embodied the company's culture and legacy, company leaders recognized the need to preserve history for future generations. Museum design company Gallagher and Associates, with History Associates and Explus, created and built the MHC in consultation



A combination of original objects and interactive media displays allows MHC staff to easily change content while keeping some permanent, iconic artifacts on display. The Legacy of Letters exhibit (foreground), for example, displays original letters from the Meijer archives, with digital copies of hundreds of additional letters and documents on three iPads. Photo credit: Albert Vecerka/Esto.

with the Meijer family and team members. The archives were consolidated adjacent to the museum. The 5,000-square foot museum contains twelve exhibit areas, eight interactive media stations, and a fifty-seat theater.

A dedicated gallery space displays an oral history project called "My Meijer Stories." We interview team members about their experiences and contributions to the company, identification with Meijer values and strategies, and connection to the Meijer family. Interviews are archived and edited versions displayed through an interactive touch screen. The stories are shown during tours of the Heritage Center and made available through company learning platforms.



The Women of Meijer: Past, Present and Future! was a quarterly program during Spring 2018 including exhibits, a panel discussion and other learning events. The display above focused on the lives and careers of Gezina, Johanna and Lena Meijer.

MHC staff, Manager Kenneth Pott and Curator Lisa VanArragon, maintain the museum and archives facilities, plan exhibitions and programs, and respond to research and tour requests. As members of the human resources team, we use the resources in the archives to create popular, themed programs with exhibitions, object lessons, and panel discussions around topics that highlight the relationship between Meijer's past and present. Examples include: "The Women of Meijer: Past, Present and Future!;" "Earth Day Every Day: Meijer's History of Environmental Sustainability;" and "From Supermarket to Supercenter: the 55th Anniversary of Thrifty Acres."

We are working on online access to exhibits and programs with the goal of reaching team members outside of West Michigan. We post micro-history lessons on the Instagram feed "@meijerheritage." A 360° virtual tour is on the company's intranet and Instagram. Online visitors can view exhibits, watch videos, read documents, and leave comments or questions in a self-guided, user-friendly digital format.

As a relatively new institution in the emerging genre of corporate museums, we hope to benefit from the connections and shared wisdom of NCPH's networks and collective professional knowledge. We look forward to learning from the NCPH to apply principles and content from the field of public history, and the wide range of organization members, to telling Meijer's story and applying a meaningful record of Meijer's activities for generations to come.

Lisa VanArragon is Curator of Education and Programming at the Meijer Heritage Center, Meijer, Inc. and Kenneth Potts is the Meijer Heritage Center Manager, Meijer, Inc.

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Atlanta, GA March 18-21, 2020

Salt Lake City, UT March 24-27, 2021 NCPH inspires public engagement with the past and serves the needs of practitioners in putting history to work in the world. We build community among historians, expand professional skills and tools, foster critical reflection on historical practice, and advocate for history and historians.

Members of NCPH have access to:

The Public Historian

 a print and online journal offering the latest original research, case studies, reviews, and coverage of the everexpanding international field of public history

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 continuing education in workshops, working groups, and critical reflection on practical and theoretical issues

News of the Field

 Public History News, email updates, and other NCPH reports will keep you current

Community

 connect to thousands of other public historians through our blog *History@Work*, listservs, and the NCPH group on Facebook

Discounts on the Annual Meeting

- Hartford 2019, Atlanta 2020, Salt Lake City 2021

Leadership Opportunities

 help to shape the profession and field by serving on committees and task forces

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 Statement on Ethics and Professional Conduct, Tenure & Promotion guidelines, *Guide to Public History Programs*, best practices, consultant directory, searchable jobs page, and discounted JPASS access to journals

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